

# Grading System Evaluated by Southern Students

With the end of school close at hand, thoughts turn to studying for finals and making grades before a well-deserved summer vacation. The Chart's roving pollsters this week queried students on what their opinions were on the college grading system. Of the 12 students polled, opinions varied from trying a pass-fail system, retaining the present A-B-C-D-F arrangement to revamping the present system. Here's what they said about the issue:

"Grades are good if they're not misused," *Ralph Gray*, Joplin junior, opined. "In a small school like ours, instructors take personal views and don't always give the grade a student actually deserves. But it's as good a system as any to express the student's progress. However, in industry and business, the employer doesn't really look at your grades, but rather your ability."

*Renee Riesenmy*, sophomore, Carthage, said, "I think we

ought to have grades. Students wouldn't have any kind of competition if the only grades were pass or fail. A more intelligent student wouldn't have to put forth any effort at all to pass, but would try harder if he could get an "A."

"I like the grading system we have now because it involves a little bit of competition and pride," *Dennis Campbell*, sophomore, Joplin, observed. "If you just pass a subject — big deal — you can pass with a "D." But if you make an "A" you feel as if you've really accomplished something. And that better grade could be important when applying for a job."

*Marilyn Johnson*, senior, Joplin: "I think a pass or fail system would be more appropriate, mainly because of the difference in teachers. One teacher may give you an "A" for the same amount of work another teacher would give you a "B" for."

"With a pass-fail system the "A" student really

wouldn't have any incentive," *Nancy Niess*, Joplin junior, offered. "I'd like to see them get away from the idea that there's something wrong with a "C" student. I don't feel that grades are that important because after you've left school, what meaning do they have for you?"

A Nigerian freshman, *Wilson Ogunbode* said, "I think I would be in favor of a pass-fail system instead of the present system. There is so little difference between the grades and it's always hard to decide where to draw the line — who gets an 'A' and who gets a 'B'."

*Diana Lenger*, freshman, Joplin, pointed out that "the grading should be on the same basis — it varies from teacher to teacher. The pass or fail system would cause me to lose incentive and make college easier."

"I think the pass-fail system would be adequate for grading in the required courses because teachers could take

into consideration the student's attitudes," *Harvey Pratt*, Webb City freshman said. "However, it is more than likely that you will be working in the field of your major so you should be a specialist in that field and grading should be stiffer. They should find some way other than just tests to evaluate what the student has learned."

*Martha Wise*, sophomore, Joplin, felt that the "pass-fail system may be a more effective means of rating a student. This system would relieve some pressure found in the present system. Too much emphasis is placed on grades. With less pressure on making grades, students could learn for learning's sake, not for the benefit of a grade. But a pass-fail system should have higher standards for passing or failing a student."

"Grades should be standard from instructor to instructor," *D. C. Emanuel*, senior, Sulphur Springs, Ark., related. "Some instructors say 90 is an "A" while others say the

same score is a "C." Something is wrong somewhere. But I favor the grading system over others for its competitive value."

*Tom Gray*, a sophomore from Carthage said, "The disadvantage to the present system is that students tend to worry more about grade-point averages than what they have learned. The pass-fail system would do away with this worry to a certain extent — you either pass or fail. The pass-fail set up is worthy of experimentation, for example in general education requirement areas."

"There are good and bad points to both sides," *Dean Sargent*, junior from Carthage said. "I think the system we have now is alright. If you use a pass-fail system, the only initiative would be with the good students. I think the good students like the conventional system, while the poorer ones would favor the pass-fail system."

# The Chart

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No. 18

## Awards Given To 3 Students In Chemistry

Three MSC students will receive awards in the area of chemistry this year.

Carl Ray Lux will receive the first annual Eula Ratekin scholarship which is offered to the junior chemistry major with the highest overall grade point average. Lux is a graduate of Carthage high school.

Gary Eck will receive the annual Freshman Chemistry Award sponsored by the Chemical Rubber Company. The award is determined by competitive examinations of freshman chemistry majors.

Michael Braeckel has been offered a National Science Foundation grant for undergraduate summer research participation at Kansas State University, Manhattan. Braeckel will be involved in studies on the chemical applications of metastable argon atoms.



Miss Jane Betebenner, sophomore political science major from Alba, was crowned 1969 Crossroads Queen at the annual ball on May 3. She was escorted by Fred Kelly. First runner-up honors went to Miss Gloria Pedersen, sophomore English major from Joplin. Miss Renee Riesenmy of Carthage was named second runner-up. Dr. Leon C. Billingsly, College president, was named the "Man of the Year" by the yearbook. His likeness is featured on the cover of the yearbook's initial magazine.

## Delta Phi Delta Sorority Holds 'Yellow Rose' Ball

The first annual Delta Phi Delta weekend began Friday night with the "Yellow Rose Formal." The dance was held in the school cafeteria from 9 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

Music was furnished by the "Sensational Soul Train" from Pittsburg, Kan.

The dance cosponsored by Mu Sigma Gamma fraternity, was open only to members of the sorority, fraternity, their dates and invited guests.

Invited guests include President and Mrs. Leon Billings-

ly, Dr. and Mrs. Edward Phinney, Dean and Mrs. Dudley Stegge, Dr. and Mrs. Floyd Belk, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Bryant, Miss Yvonna Wilson and Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Murray.

Saturday afternoon the Delta Phi's held a picnic for girls of Big Brothers, Inc.

A mother-daughter tea was scheduled for Sunday afternoon from 1 to 3 o'clock. The purpose of the tea, held at 701 Plaza Drive in Joplin, was to acquaint the mothers with the aims and functions of the sorority.

## Graduates to Hear George A. Spiva, Jr.



The son of one of the founding fathers of Missouri Southern College will return to the campus this spring to deliver the commencement address.

George A. Spiva, Jr., will speak to the first class of graduating seniors at exercises June 1 in the MSC gym.

Born in Joplin on January 11, 1928, Spiva now resides in Knoxville, Tenn. He received his bachelor of science and masters degree from the University of Missouri and his Ph.D from the University of Texas.

Spiva has taught in the field

of economics at the University of Missouri, Western Military Academy, University of Texas, Gadjah Mada University at Jogjakarta, Indonesia, Universidad Agraria at Lima, Peru, and is presently associate professor of elementary economics, international economics and economic development at the University of Tennessee. He conducted research in Greece which led to his doctoral dissertation, "Economic Development in Modern Greece: A Study of Institutional Resistances."

## June 1, the Big Day... Activities Set For Graduation

Final plans concerning graduation and preceding activities have been finalized, according to information received from the office of Dean Edward S. Phinney.

Approximately 280 students will receive degrees in commencement exercises to be held at 3 o'clock Sunday afternoon, June 1 in the Physical Education building. All seniors will be required to attend graduation ceremonies. Relatives and friends of the graduates will be welcome.

Graduates have been asked to meet at 2:15 o'clock that Sunday afternoon to prepare for the procession. Caps and gowns may be picked up at the college bookstore during final examination week and should be returned to the bookstore immediately after the commencement exercises. Graduates will receive their actual diplomas when the caps and gowns are returned.

Rehearsal for the commencement will be at 5 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, May 28, in the P. E. building.

In order to receive their diplomas, graduates also must

pay the \$10 graduation fee in the Finance Office and complete registration at the MSC Placement Office.

Invitations for graduation have been on sale in the bookstore since Monday. The price of each invitation is 12 cents.

The Board of Regents and Trustees and the administrative staff will hold a breakfast in honor of all graduates at 8:30 o'clock Saturday morning, May 31. The breakfast will be served in the lounge of the new College Union. Students who are planning to attend the breakfast should contact President Leon Billingsly's office, extension 201, prior to noon Friday, May 27.

### Summer Schedule

The Spiva Library will be open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. during summer session. It also will remain open until 9 p.m. on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. However, it will be closed on Saturdays and Sundays.



## Here We Go Again

It seems that the recent student body elections had provided a big step toward the defeat of student apathy on our campus. But now it appears that that's not the case.

The whole apathy bit, to summarize, began with football season last fall. Attendance for MSC football games was poor, and no increase was evident during the basketball campaign.

Poor student attendance was in evidence, in addition, at several other functions during the school year.

The elections, however, drew a record number of voters and it seemed, to be sure, that student apathy was perhaps riding into the proverbial setting sun, never to be seen here again.

But apathy has again found a spark of hope on our campus. The case in point — last week's New Christy Minstrels concert at Joplin's Memorial Hall.

The attendance for this performance was estimated at 500. Very poor, wouldn't you say, for the No. 1 folk singing group in the nation and the world. The performance was an unforgettable experience for those in attendance.

The "Christys," consisted of six men and two lovely women, turned in what could be termed the most outstanding excitement performance ever witnessed in this fair city. Talent abounded, in more ways than one, the audience was, to say the least, overwhelmed with what it saw.

It cannot be overlooked that some MSC students and faculty members attended the performance, but only a small percentage of the 500 who did and even a smaller percentage of our student body. Hats off to those who showed up.

The agency which organized the concert could, undoubtedly, call it quits. Unless the crusade against apathy is renewed, it seems that only failure faces those in favor of adding a little "class" to the community and the college.

Apathy is a powerful foe. Apathy has won this battle, but the war isn't over yet, unless MSC's student body concedes — and if things continue as they have, that just might well be the case.

It's really a shame, if you stop to think about it. It really is.  
— J. M.

## Do Your Own Thing

Students emphatically have been making known their desire to have a type of "twirp day" ever since it was first learned that "Native Day" had been omitted from this year's calendar of events. These students can give three cheers because the student senate has finally made definite plans to have just such a day at Missouri Southern this year.

At the Thursday, May 8, senate meeting, the motion to have a "Do Your Own Thing Day" on May 23 carried almost unanimously. "Do Your Own Thing" will replace last year's native theme.

The highlight of the day will be a dance held Friday night — hopefully in the new union. And, best of all, the representatives voted to make the dance free of charge to all Southern students and their dates. Music will be provided by a seven-piece soul band, "The Royal Coachmen," of Kansas City. The senate voted to "go all out" for the dance since the money left in the treasury belongs to the students.

Sorry girls, but as tradition demands, the females will be required to foot the bill for this one day, which includes buying their male companions breakfast, lunch and dinner.

The senate has planned a novelty atmosphere for the dance and excitement should "run rampant." Although details will remain a secret until the last minute, "Do Your Own Thing" promises to be THE event of the year.

The 1968-69 senate should be commended for its efforts to please the student body. Don't you agree?  
— G. P.

## Southern Student Hears Kennedy Speak at Drury

**Editor's Note —** Audrey Burtrum, Missouri Southern freshman, was on hand Saturday, April 26, for a speech by Senator Edward Kennedy at Drury College, Springfield. Following are excerpts from what Audrey saw and heard during the speech and activities there. Kennedy was in town to speak at the annual Jackson Day Dinner.

Senator Edward M. Kennedy urged students at Springfield's Drury College to conform their challenge with "conviction and courage because the hope of the future depends on you," in a speech at the College April 26. The senator said that "a mood of optimism today has replaced the hopelessness of 1967," and credited concerned students with doing much in relation to the change by questions they raised during the election last year.

The Massachusetts senator, along with Governor Warren E. Hearnes, Senators Stuart Symington and Thomas Eagleton and Congressman James Symington were keynote speakers at the Democratic Party's annual Jackson Day dinner at the Shrine Mosque.

Sen. Kennedy, who was on hand to initiate a convocation series named in his honor, drew laughter when he said he thought of attending Drury, but his father convinced him he would become lost in such a complex impersonal educational system — so he went to Harvard.

Accompanying the 20-minute speech was a question and answer period with discussion on the Middle-East, NATO, the plane shot down by North Korea and the electoral college. Kennedy said he had "more than a passing interest" in the voting system.

## Fraternity Raises Funds

A total of 1,300 balloons were sold to Missouri Southern College students and faculty members during the three-day balloon contest sponsored by Pi Beta Lambda social fraternity. Helium-



filled balloons with post cards attached bearing the purchaser's name and the return address of MSC were released from the campus May 5, 6, and 7.

The post card which had been returned to Southern from the farthest distance by May 22 entitles the purchaser to his choice of a \$50 scholarship to MSC or a \$90 camera. Second prize is three record albums and third prize is a \$15 ice chest.



Senator Edward Kennedy is shown in the accompanying photo with Robert Fields, Greene County Democratic chairman, and Governor Warren Hearnes and his wife, Betty, at Springfield's Jackson Day Dinner. — (Photo courtesy of Carthage Cablevision).

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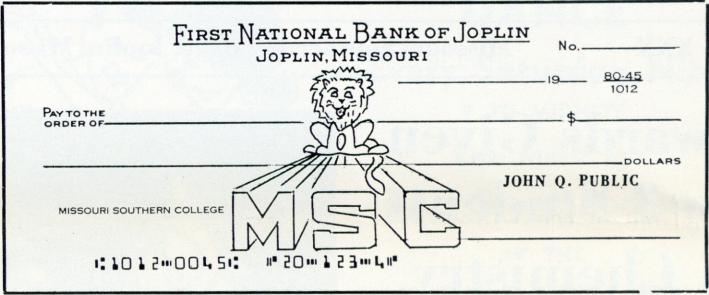


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## The Chart

The Chart, the official student newspaper of Missouri Southern College, Joplin, Missouri, 64801, publishes 18 issues during the school year. It is a member of the Missouri College Newspaper Association.

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# Children's Theater Answers Area's Need For "Good" Drama

Back in Shakespeare's time, boy actors often played adult parts in adult plays. But today, in Missouri Southern's Children's Theater, adults perform in children's plays for both children and adults.

The MSC Children's Theater began operation at the beginning of this semester. It is a class designed to teach mainly elementary education and dramatics majors. But according to Mrs. Joyce Bowman, Children's Theater instructor, it is open to any MSC student. The Children's Theater is sponsored by the Joplin Branch of the American Children's Education Association.

According to Mrs. Bowman, the course is designed not only to teach college students, but also to serve a community function as well. She notes the Children's Theater was organized "because we felt the need for children in this area to see good drama produced."

Next fall, the Children's Theater group plans to present three plays. The first, in the fall, will be "Cinderella." And the third, "Many Moons," will be presented in the spring. The second play has not been selected as yet. But Mrs. Bowman points out that it will probably be a "legendary story to give variety." The second play is slated for sometime in the winter.

"Many Moons" is a modern play by James Thurber. It is a story about a princess who wants the moon, but who goes into a decline because she cannot have it. Mrs. Bowman adds that "three delightful characters, the jester, the king and the wizard, try to find out what's wrong with the princess. And they attempt to help her regain normality."

The children's plays to be presented will feature some fairly unconventional scenery. Duane Hunt, MSC dramatic instructor, has designed sets made of large plastic building blocks in varying colors and geometrical shapes. Mrs. Bowman noted, however, that the huge forms of plastic, and not the conventional type of setting, was being used for several reasons. They can be easily stored, loaded and unloaded; and they also can provide for quick set changes to hold the attention of children between the scenes.

## Pierson Plans Fourth Season With Starlight

Dick Pierson, a junior at MSC, will begin his fourth season with the Kansas City Starlight Theatre in June.

A voice major, Pierson has participated in 24 musicals at the theater. He is a member of the theater chorus and is a member of Actor's Equity, the actors' union.

Pierson also participated in the College Players' production of "The Great Crusade, or Hell No, We Won't Go."

Pat Pickett, MSC dramatics major, will direct each of the three plays next fall, and Mrs. Bowman will produce them. Mrs. Bowman will also be in charge of costume design.

Much of the production assistance, Mrs. Bowman noted, will come from the MSC Theater lab class. The theater lab, a one-hour course, is open to any MSC student. And as Mrs. Bowman says, "You don't have to have acting experience. Anyone can enroll. We need painters, seamstresses, writers, people to work on publicity, artists, and people to do make-up."

## Division Chairman, Chemistry Major Submit Article on Experiments Here

Dr. James J. Altendorf, chairman of the science and mathematics division, and Richard Spencer, a senior chemistry major have corroborated in writing an article concerning an advanced study experiment that was conducted by the two here at Missouri Southern. The article, "Analysis of Fluorine and Phosphorus in the Compound Tetramethylammonium Hexafluorophosphate," is to be published in "The Transactions of the Missouri Academy of Science."

The compound used is representative of several substituted ammonium fluoro salts that are manufactured by the Ozark-Mahoning Company of Tulsa, Okla. They are unusual among organic compounds in reference to their stability at high temperatures. They are patented to be used as additives for inducible resistance to burning in thermoplastic organic polymers. However, the patent is not used commercially, and very little information has been

published concerning the compounds.

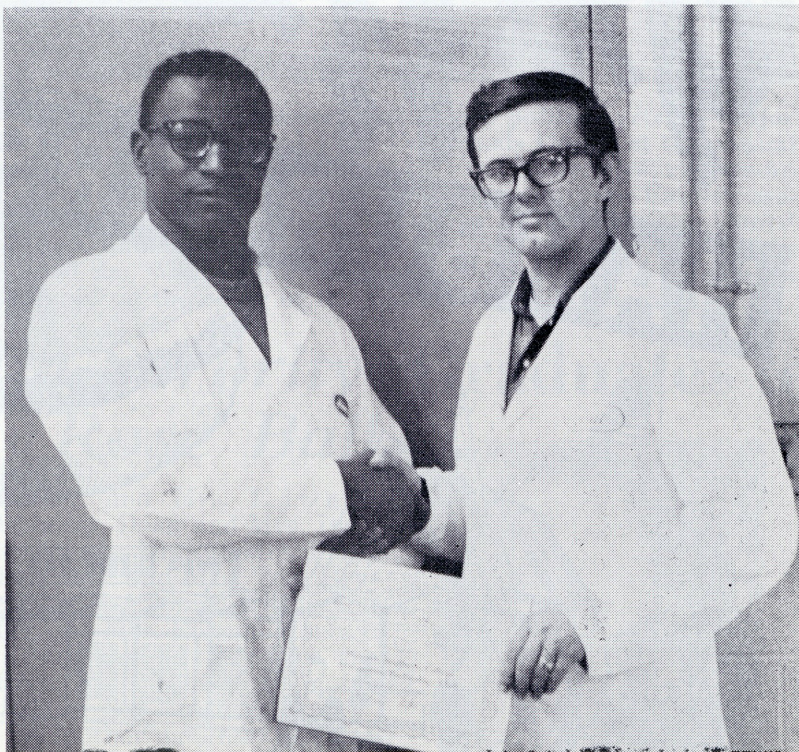
The authors purified a sample, analyzed it, and made observations of its characteristics. The article describes the experiment conducted and discussed the results.

Dr. Altendorf and Spencer discovered that the crystalline structure of the salt appears to be the triclinic system with a geometric configuration of a parallelepiped. The results also revealed that the purification of triethylammonium hexafluorophosphate can be affected by recrystallization from hot water, and that the resulting crystals... (decompose) without melting at 404-406° C.



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An honorary membership was presented William Pearson, lab assistant in the Auto Technology department, in recent ceremonies at the lab by Missouri Southern's Automotive Technology Club. Courtney Sanders, left, club president, is shown congratulating Pearson in the accompanying photo. The certificate entitles Pearson to participate in all A.T.C. events.



Cheerleaders for 1969-70 were selected at tryouts recently in the gym. The new squad includes Charlotte Duke, Dixie Gossett, Mary Moss, Pam Perkins and Debbie Riggs. Freshman alternates and male yell leaders will be chosen in the fall.

## Spiva Art Center Prepares For Fall Student Exhibit

MSC art majors will prepare this summer for the Fall Student Art Exhibit-Contest sponsored by the Spiva Art Center.

Each student may submit three entries of two or three-dimensional art. Entries will be accepted between August 25 and August 29. All entries must be ready for hanging and appropriately displayed.

The art exhibit will open at 7:30 p.m. September 2 when awards will be presented. First prize in the contest will be \$100. Prizes of \$50 and \$25 will be awarded to second and third place winners, respectively.

Members of the Spiva Art Committee will serve as judges for the contest, assisted by the MSC art faculty.

## Busy Summer Planned by Music Groups

The music department will have a busy schedule for the remainder of the school year, according to William Taylor, head of the music department.


The symphonic orchestra performed May 18 at South Junior High School at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. MSC students were admitted to the concert on their ID cards.


The music department also will provide music at commencement exercises.

During summer vacation orchestra members will have sight reading practice Monday nights. This will be the first year the department has had summer practice.

The Lion Pride band also will have summer rehearsals beginning in August.

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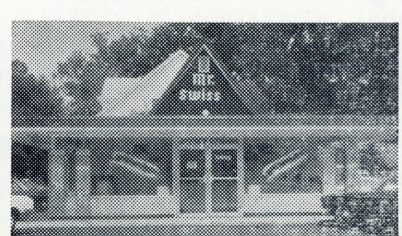


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# Greens Topple Whites In Spring Finale, 12-2

The Missouri Southern College football squad completed spring football drills on Friday, May 2, with the Green-White intrasquad scrimmage on the MSC practice field.

Student assistant coaches Skip Drouin and Butch Davis coached the Green and White squads, respectively, while new head coach Reuben Berry oversaw the action.

The Greens defeated the Whites in the game, 12-2, paced by the running of Courtney Sanders, the passing of Pat Wozniak and the receiving of Leonard Gay.

Sanders, running at tailback, was the workhorse of the Green ground game, picking up 102 yards on 17 carries. His longest run of the game was a 49-yard scoring scamper off right tackle early in the first half.

Wozniak called the signals for the Green crew, hitting on six of 10 passes for 69 yards and one touchdown.

Gay, operating from the flanker position, hauled in five passes for 65 yards, scoring once on a 44-yard pass from Wozniak.

The Whites scored on the first series of the game, forcing the Greens to punt from their own 38-yard line. The pass from center, however, sailed over the would-be punter's head and into the end zone for a safety.

Kenny Hall, tailback, picked up 14 yards on six carries to lead the White rushing attack. He suffered a strained ligament in his ankle during the second half, but the injury was not serious, according to trainer Hollis Spear.

The Greens led in every offensive statistic category — first downs, 7-2; rushing yardage, 88-53; passing yardage, 69-24, and return yardage, 2-0. No kickoffs were held during the game, and only one punt was returned.

The Green eleven, however, was hampered by fumblyitis, losing the ball four times due to miscues.

Berry was impressed with the scrimmage, noting that "We have come a long way since the start of spring drills. These men have great attitudes, and they showed some good contact and hitting in the scrimmage."

If the spring training session is any indication of the way the Lions will fare next fall, a good season is in store for Berry's grid charges. With a solid nucleus around which to build the squad, and with the outstanding high school and junior college graduates

# MSC Women Begin Softball Loop Play

The Missouri Southern College-sponsored women's softball team opened competition in the Joplin Softball Association's Women's League on Friday, May 2.

In competition thus far this season, MSC owns a 1-1 record and is tied for second place in the league with the Neosho Royals, Dor-Flex Electronics and the Eagle-Picher Cuties. The Neosho Gidgets, defending league champs, stand 2-0, while the Cajun Queens are winless in a pair of outings.

In their opener May 2, the Missouri Southern women suffered a 22-1 setback at the hands of the Gidgets, as Sondra Adams fired a no-hitter. Myrtle Bendure and Pam Aggus shared the pitching chores for MSC, while Deanna

Bendure and Rose Fox handled the catching duties.

The Gidgets collected 19 hits off the offerings of Myrtle and Pam in scoring two runs in the first frame, two in the second, five in the third, eight in the fourth and five in the fifth. MSC scored its only run without a hit in the bottom of the first inning.

MSC posted its first victory on Friday, May 9, turning back the Neosho Royals, 14-0, as Myrtle Bendure fashioned a one-hitter. On the same night, Sondra Adams pitched a one-hitter as the Gidgets overpowered the Eagle-Picher Cuties, 23-1.

Southern rapped out 13 hits, scoring six runs in the second and six more in the third to put the game on ice.

who have been added to the Lion candidate roster thus far this spring, MSC's football Lions should be an exciting, impressive club.

## McMillan, Hunter Impressive at MU

Any Missouri Southern College football fan will surely remember the names of Terry McMillan and Stan Hunter.

McMillan, at quarterback, and Hunter, at halfback, were vital factors in the Lions' 9-1 football successes in 1967-68 and their high national ranking.

These two performers turned in creditable showings during the annual University of Missouri Black-Gold spring football scrimmage on May 3.

McMillan quarterbacked the Black squad, which was composed of MU's number one offensive team and number two defensive squad, to a 24-13 victory in the tussle.

McMillan hit on six of 10 passes for 48 yards, scored on a one-yard run and also ran for a two-point conversion.

Hunter, virtually an unknown at MU last season, played tailback for the Golds and was the club's top receiver with three catches for 135 yards, including a 74-yard scoring screen pass from quarterback Garnett Phelps, brother of current MSC student assistant coach Monroe Phelps.

The Blacks held a slim 8-7 lead after three periods, but outscored the Golds during the final stanza, 16-6, to register the victory.

# Southern Athletes Honored at Fete

Four Missouri Southern College athletes received special awards during the annual Lion Backers Booster Club's athletic awards banquet in the MSC cafeteria on Tuesday night, May 6.

John Oestreich, junior guard this season for Frank Davis' Lion basketball squad, earned two awards. He was presented the outstanding student-athlete award by Dr. Carl Clark, president of the Lion Backer, who served as master of ceremonies for the fete.

Oestreich received a plaque as he had a perfect 4.0 grade point average for the first semester and an accumulative average of 3.68. He also will receive a \$100 gift.

"Johnny 'O'" also was named a co-recipient of the basketball hustle award, along with Greg Fulton, 6-3 junior forward from Webb City.

The basketball rebounding award was presented by Davis to Bill Cole, a muscular 6-5 junior center-forward from Oakland, N. J.

Football honors went to Gary Selvidge, a 6-1, 195-pound junior linebacker from Grandview, Mo., received the most valuable football player award.

Members of the college football, basketball, golf, tennis and track teams were introduced by their respective coaches — athletic director Mike Bogard for football and track, Davis for basketball and tennis and Doug Landrith for golf. The cheerleaders were introduced by Bogard.

Also receiving recognition and plaques were MSC's three student assistant coaches — Skip Drouin, Monroe Phelps and Butch Davis. They received their plaques from junior quarterback Pat Wozniak.

Reuben Berry, new head football coach, delivered the featured speech. The key word — Pride. Berry promised an exciting, winning football club next season.

Approximately 200 Lion Backers, athletes and guests attended the banquet.



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